

Exodus 24:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.

Analysis

And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.

Blood divides into halves—one for altar (God's side), one for people (v. 8). This symbolizes covenant binds both parties. 'Sprinkled on altar' (וַיִּזְרוֹק עַל־הַמִּזְבֵּחַ, vayizroq al-hamizbeach) means blood touches God's throne. Blood is life (Leviticus 17:11); sprinkling blood dedicates life to God. The altar represents God; the people represent Israel—blood unites both. Hebrews 9:18-22 interprets this: 'even the first covenant was inaugurated with blood.' Christ's blood mediates a better covenant (Hebrews 8:6, 9:15, 12:24)—sprinkled once for all, cleansing conscience not just flesh.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern treaty ratifications sometimes involved blood rituals symbolizing the oath's binding nature ('may this happen to me if I break covenant'). Israel's blood ritual uniquely unites God and people in covenant bond.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does dividing blood between altar (God) and people symbolize about covenant relationship?
2. How does Hebrews 9-12 connect Sinai's blood sprinkling to Christ's blood sprinkled in heaven?

Interlinear Text

וָיָקַח	וּמֹשֶׁה	וְחֵצִי	הַדָּם	וַיִּשֶׂם	בְּאֵגֻנֵי ת	וְחֵצִי
took	And Moses	and half	of the blood	and put	it in basins	and half
H3947	H4872	H2677	H1818	H7760	H101	H2677
הַדָּם	זָרַק	עַל	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ:			
of the blood	he sprinkled	H5921	on the altar			
H1818	H2236		H4196			

Additional Cross-References

1 Peter 1:19 (Blood): But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

Exodus 24:8 (Blood): And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words.

Hebrews 9:18 (Blood): Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood.

Leviticus 4:6 (Blood): And the priest shall dip his finger in the blood, and sprinkle of the blood seven times before the LORD, before the vail of the sanctuary.